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LETTER DATED 4 DECEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TAJIKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on 2 December 1996.

I should be very grateful if you would have this text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rashid ALIMOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Tajikistan
to the United Nations

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Annex

Statement issued on 2 December 1996 by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan

Despite all the efforts by the leaders of the Republic of Tajikistan to resolve the issues of the inter-Tajik conflict and the strict observance on their part of the conditions of the Tehran agreement and other agreements, the situation in the Pamir region of the Republic of Tajikistan remains tense because of systematic illegal actions by the armed opposition.

Thus, on 1 December 1996, armed formations of the intransigent opposition perpetrated a barbaric attack against the town of Garm. As a result there are numerous casualties amongst the civilian population. The incident is the latest violation of the ceasefire agreement and poses a serious threat to the continuation of the peace talks.

The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, firmly condemning the terrorist methods used by the armed opposition, declares in all responsibility that in the event of a continuation of the escalation of tension in the areas concerned, it will be forced to take appropriate steps.

The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, in making this statement, calls on the United Nations to make an appropriate assessment of these facts and take the necessary steps to promote a ceasefire and a peaceful settlement of the inter-Tajik conflict.